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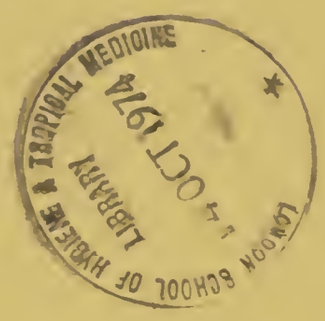
EAST HERTFORDSHIRE COMBINED DISTRICTS

WARE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL



ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

including the report of the

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR 1972

September
1973

THE PRIORY,
WARE,
HERTS,

W A R E U R B A N D I S T R I C T

Annual Report on the Health of the District for the Year 1972

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EAST HERTFORDSHIRE COMBINED DISTRICTS

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1972

WARE URBAN DISTRICT

PREFACE

To the Chairman and Councillors, Ware Urban District.

Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report upon the health of Ware Urban District for the year ending 31st December, 1972.

Basically, the health in the area has been good. The deaths in young people are no more than the National average. As usual, the deaths of old people in Western House tend to distort the local figures in comparison with the National average. The infectious disease, as reported, has been very small.

The National and Regional data for writing an Annual Report is not normally available until late April or May. My position as your Medical Officer of Health ends in April, 1974. So this will probably be the last Annual Report I write for you. At the time of writing there is doubt whether the "proper officer" who is to be your future medical adviser will be expected to write reports for the new Councils.

If I were you, I would ask for further reports. There is something to be said for an unbiassed, trained observer who will watch local trends in morbidity and mortality.

I wish to thank Mr. Todd and his staff for their help and advice.

Finally, I wish to say that I have very much enjoyed being the Medical Officer of Health in this District.

I am Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

J. V. EARLE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

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PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT - STAFF

Medical Officer of Health:

John V. Earle, M.A., M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H., D.I.H.,

Central Office: Council Offices,
High Street,
Hoddesdon, Herts.

Telephone: Office Hoddesdon 68331
Private Hoddesdon 62467

Deputy Medical Officer of Health (Full-Time):

Eric C. Howarth, M.B., B.S., D.P.H.,
(appointed 1.5.1972)

Telephone: Private Welwyn 4199

Deputy Medical Officer of Health (Part-Time):

Peter de Bec Turtle, V.R.D., M.A., B.M., B.Ch., D.P.H.,
(From 1.1.1972 to 30.4.1972)
Haileybury and Imperial Service College, Hertford.

Telephone: Private Hoddesdon 62040

Public Health Inspectors:

Chief Public Health Inspector:	W. G. Todd
Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector:	
1. 1. 1972 to 20. 9. 1972	A. Hutchison
30.11.1972 to 31.12. 1972	R. C. Morton
Meat Inspector:	W.H. Luck
Clerk/Typist	
1. 1. 1972 to 31. 7. 1972	Mrs. I.T.J. Smith
31.7. 1972 to 31.12. 1972	Mrs. M. Watkins

Public Health Department:

Council Offices,
The Priory,
Ware, Herts.
Telephone: Ware 2425

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

The Chairman of the Health, Environment and Works Committee for the session 1972/73 was Councillor J. Simpson.

Also on the Committee, were the Chairman and Vice Chairman of Council (Councillors H. G. Hurn and C.W. Bowsher respectiveley) and Councillors Mrs. E. K. Barker, F. H. Beazley, D. G. Clare, H. S. Vaughan and C.T.Weller-Lewis.

SECTION A

GENERAL STATISTICS 1972

(Table 1)

(Figures for 1971 are shown in brackets)

POPULATION

Estimated Mid-Year Population for Ware Urban District

14,830	(14,670)	
Natural increase or decrease	... ...	- 36
Migration in or out	... ...	+ 196
Total increase or decrease	... ...	+ 160

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area in acres	... ...	1,385.38

Number of Inhabited Houses according to Rate Book

4,738	(4,702)	
Number of Houses per acre	... ...	3.42
Number of persons per acre	... ...	10.70
Number of Persons per house	... ...	3.13
Rateable Value of District	... ...	£915,477
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	... ...	£9,045

VITAL STATISTICS

(TABLE 2)

	Local Authority area Males	Females	Total	England and Wales (Total)
Estimated mid-year home population			14,830	49,028,900
Live Births - Total	97	98	195	725,405
Legitimate	93	96	189	662,907
Illegitimate	4	2	6	62,498
Stillbirths - Total	1	1	2	8,794
Legitimate	1	1	2	7,846
Illegitimate	-	-	-	948
Total live - Total	98	99	197	734,199
and Legitimate	94	97	191	670,753
Stillbirths Illegitimate	4	2	6	63,446
Deaths of infants				
Under 1 year of age-Total	2	2	4	12,494
Legitimate	2	2	4	11,177
Illegitimate	-	-	-	1,317
Under 4 weeks of age				
Total	1	2	3	8,373
Legitimate	1	2	3	7,503
Illegitimate	-	-	-	870
Under 1 week of age				
Total	-	1	1	7,142
Legitimate	-	1	1	6,365
Illegitimate	-	-	-	777
Deaths - all ages	93	138	231	591,907

VITAL STATISTICS

(Table 2 continued)

	Local Authority Area	Hertford County	England and Wales
Live Birth rates, etc.,			
Livebirths per 1,000 home population (crude rate)	13.1.	14.3	14.8
Area comparability factor	0.92	0.98	1.00
Local adjusted rate	12.1.	14.0	14.8
Ratio of local adjusted rate to national rate	0.81		1.00
Illegitimate live births as percentage of all live births	3		9
Stillbirth rate			
Stillbirths per 1,000 total live and stillbirths	10	11.8	12
Infant Mortality rates			
Deaths under 1 year per 1,000 live births	21	13.4	17
Deaths of legitimate infants under 1 year per 1,000 legitimate live births	21	12.8	17
Deaths of illegitimate infants under 1 year per 1,000 illegitimate live births	-	22.4	21
Neonatal mortality rate			
Deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 live births	15	9.1	12
Early neonatal mortality rate			
Deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births	5	8.0	10
Perinatal mortality rate			
Stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and stillbirths	15	19.6	22
Maternal mortality (including abortion)			
Number of deaths	-	-	11[1]
Rate per 1,000 total live and stillbirths	-	-	0.15
Death rates, etc., all ages			
Deaths per 1,000 home population (crude rate)	15.6	9.5	12.1.
Area Comparability factor	0.66	1.11	1.00
Local adjusted rate	10.3	10.5	12.1
Ratio of local adjusted rate to national rate.	0.85		1.00

TABLE 3

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING YEAR 1972

Heading		M.	F.
	ALL CAUSES	93	138
B19(2)	Malignant neoplasm, oesophagus	2	-
B19(3)	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	1	1
B19(4)	Malignant neoplasm, intestine	1	3
B19(6)	Malignant neoplasm, Lung, bronchus	4	2
B19(7)	Malignant neoplasm, Breast	-	6
B19(8)	Malignant neoplasm, Uterus	-	1
B19(9)	Malignant neoplasm, Prostate	3	-
B19(10)	Leukaemia	1	-
B19(11)	Other Malignant neoplasms	5	4
B20	Benign and unspecified neoplasms	-	1
B21	Diabetes Mellitus	1	-
B46(3)	Mental Disorders	1	1
B46(5)	Other Diseases of Nervous System	-	3
B26	Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	-	1
B27	Hypertensive Disease	1	2
B28	Ischaemic Heart Disease	17	9
B29	Other forms of Heart Disease	3	12
B30	Cerebrovascular Disease	19	57
B46(6)	Other Diseases of Circulatory system	3	5
B32	Pneumonia	8	10
B33(1)	Bronchitis and Emphysema	11	4
B46(7)	Other Diseases of Respiratory System	4	5
B34	Peptic Ulcer	1	1
B36	Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia	1	1
B46(8)	Other Diseases of Digestive System	1	3
B46(9)	Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System	3	-
B46(11)	Diseases of Musculo-Skeletal System	-	1
B42	Congenital Anomalies	1	-
B44	Other Causes of Perinatal Mortality	-	1
B45	Symptoms and ill defined conditions	-	3
BE47	Motor Vehicle Accidents	-	1
BE48	All other Accidents	1	-

TABLE 4

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) notified during the year

		Age Group in Years						
Disease	Total	Under 1	1-	5-	15-	25-	Over 65	Age not known
Measles	2	-	1	1	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	3	1	1	-	-	1	-	-

Incidence of Reported Infectious Disease by Months:

Measles	March	2
Dysentery	March	3

No cases of Food Poisoning were notified.

TABLE 4 (Continued)

Tuberculosis Notifications during 1972.

The year commenced with 57 names on the Register as follows:-

Males	Pulmonary	24	Non-Pulmonary	3
Females	Pulmonary	25	Non-Pulmonary	5

During the year one male pulmonary and one female pulmonary cases were notified. There was one male pulmonary inward transfer and one former male pulmonary case was restored to the Register.

Three female and one male pulmonary cases recovered and 1 male pulmonary case died.

At the end of 1972, the following case remained upon the Register:-

Males:	Pulmonary	25	Non-Pulmonary	3
Females:	Pulmonary	23	Non-Pulmonary	5

TOTAL: 56 cases

GENERAL STATISTICS

The population has increased to a mid-year estimate of 14,830. There has been a migration into the area of nearly 200 people. The population density has slightly increased to 10.70 people per acre.

VITAL STATISTICS

The number of births (195) is less than the number of deaths (231). This has not previously occured in this area during the past decade, so far as I know. The local birth rate is a little lower than the national average rate, whereas a few years ago, it was above the average rate.

The change may be partly due to the completion of families and partly due to increased awareness in family planning, and improved family planning facilities. During the year, there were no maternal deaths. Four children died under the age of one year.

These deaths were due to congenital abnormalities and other unpreventable causes.

CAUSES OF DEATH

There were six deaths due to cancer of the lung. Two occurred in men under the age of 65.

This follows the general national pattern of the commonest preventable cause of death in men.

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE

Virtually no communicable disease occurred in the year. This is not merely due to chance or to our modern technology. It is largely due to constant, routine, often unnoticed work on the part of those who control such disease. I do not only refer to the officials such as doctors, health visitors, nurses and public health inspectors but also to parents and members of the public. It is a good result from a team effort.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS, 1948 - 1951

No action was required under these Acts during 1971.

MEDICAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR IMMIGRANTS

There are at present few immigrants in the area. Arrangements are satisfactory.

BUILDING

During the year, the Council built no houses: 35 were built by private enterprise.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEES

During 1972, Dr. Howarth and I have shared the Local Authority work in East Hertfordshire. He has undertaken the majority of work in Hertford and Ware. From our point of view, this has been a useful arrangement, and we hope we have jointly provided a better service than I provided when alone.

SECTION B

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR WARE

LABORATORY SERVICES

Laboratory facilities are provided by the Public Health Laboratory Service at Cambridge.

In emergency, medical specimens may be examined at the Laboratory of the County Hospital, Hertford.

COUNTY COUNCIL HEALTH AND WELFARE SERVICES

The following County Council Services under the National Health Service Acts, 1946 - 1957 are available for Ware. Full details can be obtained from the County Medical Officer, County Hall, Hertford.

Home Nursing, Midwifery, Health Visiting and Welfare Centres

Health Centre Bowling Road, Ware.	Telephone: Ware: 2388
Number of Nurses	5
Number of Clinic Nurses	2 part-time
Number of Health Visitors	3 full-time and 2 part-time

The following clinics are held at the Welfare Centre:-

Speech Therapy	Thursday	10 a.m.-4 p.m.
Infant Welfare	Tuesdays	2 - 4 p.m.
Dental Clinic	Monday, Tuesday Wednesday, Thursday and Friday	A.M.and P.M.
Orthoptist	Friday	P.M.
Ante and Post Natal Clinics Drs. Moore and Sedgewick	Friday	P.M.
Relaxation Class	Monday and Wednesday (by appointment)	P.M.
Immunisation	4th Tuesday in Month	10 - 12 a.m.
Family Planning	Monday Thursday Second and fourth Wednesday in each month	7 - 8 p.m. 7 - 8.30 p.m. A.M.
General Clinic	Second Monday	10.00 a.m.
Audiometry	First Friday in month	a.m.
Slimming Clinic	Thursday	10.00 a.m.

Family Planning

This service, which was started in Ware as long ago as 1964 grows more and more popular. In 1972 there were 308 new patients and the total number of visits amounted to 3107.

Immunisation and Vaccination

All parents are advised to take advantage of this service, which can be obtained from their family doctors or at Infant Welfare Centres.

Approx. Age	Vaccine
6 Months	COMBINED Diptheria, Tetanus and Whooping Cough POLIOMYELITIS (ORAL)
8 Months	COMBINED Diptheria, Tetanus and Whooping Cough POLIOMYELITIS (ORAL)
13 Months	COMBINED Diptheria, Tetanus and Whooping Cough POLIOMYELITIS (ORAL)
15 Months	MEASLES
School entry	POLIOMYELITIS (ORAL)
School entry	COMBINED Diptheria, Tetanus
13 years	TUBERCULOSIS B.C.G. Vaccination
13 years	RUBELLA (German Measles) Vaccination is offered to those girls who have not already had this disease.

This is NOT a rigid time-table. Many Doctors hold slightly differing views, and prematurity or ill-health in a child may mean the schedule has to be altered to meet individual needs.

During 1971, the Department of Health and Social Security recommended that routine vaccination of infants should cease. Children can still be vaccinated on the request of their parents.

SMALLPOX

In view of the recent smallpox problems in Great Britain, I wish to make it clear that after a first vaccination, a vaccination certificate cannot become valid until after the vaccination has "taken" i.e., 8 days after successful vaccination.

After re-vaccination, a certificate is immediately valid.

Lack of a valid certificate has caused considerable personal and financial difficulties for travellers.

Social Services

With the coming into force of the Local Authority Social Services Act, on the 1st April, 1971, statutory responsibility for providing services and social work help to the physically handicapped, the elderly, the mentally handicapped and the mentally ill, as well as the responsibility for the child care and family case work services passed to the newly formed Social Services Department.

Referrals

a) Monday - Friday. 9 a.m. - 5.30 p.m. There is usually a Social Worker on duty throughout normal office hours, at both the Divisional Office and at the Area Offices to answer queries, accept new referrals etc., In addition, there is always a warranted Mental Welfare Officer on call for the whole Division and contact may be made with him through the Divisional Office (Hertford 7041).

b) Out of Normal Office Hours and at weekends, the warranted Mental Welfare Officer may be contacted through Ambulance Control (Hertford 2222). All other requests for help in emergency situations out of office hours, such as those arising in connection with children and young persons, should also be directed to the warranted Mental Welfare Officer, through Ambulance Control and he will put the caller in touch with a more appropriate Social Worker if necessary.

All applications for aids and adaptations to properties occupied by physically handicapped people, all applications for telephones and televisions under the Chronically Sick and Disabled Persons' Act, 1970, and enquiries connected with Blind Welfare should be made to the Divisional Office - all other requests for help should be made to the Senior Social Worker for the area concerned.

Divisional Social Services Officer

Miss M. Copleston	Westfield,
	West Street,
Mr. A. C. Stuteley (with effect from 16. 7. 73)	Hertford.
	TEL: Hertford 7041

Assistant Divisional Social Services Officer

Mr. H. W. Scott	"

Ware Area Social Workers Team Senior Social Worker	Social Services Department, 1, Queens Road, Hertford.
Miss J. Kenyon-Rogers.	TEL:Hertford 2294 and 2295

THE HOME HELP SERVICE

This service continues to operate as under:-

Hoddesdon Urban District, Ware Urban District and Ware Rural District

Mrs. Castle, Home Help Organiser	Old Health Centre,
Mrs. Woolf, Assistant Home Help Organiser,	High Street,
	Hoddesdon.
Mrs. Carless - Clerk	TEL: Hoddesdon 67080
	HOURS: 8.30 - 1 2 - 5 p.m.

More home helps in all areas are urgently needed

Care and After Care

Applications for recuperative holidays, if recommended by the Medical Attendant, should be made to the County Medical Officer.

Equipment such as mackintosh sheets, crutches and wheel chairs can be issued on loan to patients being nursed at home and a weekly charge is made according to the financial circumstances of the patient.

Ambulance Service

An ambulance station adjoins the Priory Grounds. Except in emergency, an ambulance should be ordered by a Medical Practitioner.

East Herts. District Work Centre for the Physically Disabled.

This project at Marsh Lane, Ware was opened during 1972 and is a joint venture run by the Hertfordshire Association for the Disabled and the County Social Services Department. Those eligible to attend are substantially and permanently disabled by accident or illness, yet they are able to undertake small assembly or packaging work with the utmost care and ability. The Centre is designed to accommodate a maximum of 30 workers but the present daily average varies between 12 - 15 persons. A minibus is provided to collect those workers who have no transport of their own, and when working at the Centre, they are given a hot meal which is provided from the kitchens of Western House Hospital, Ware.

HOSPITAL SERVICES

Ware is served chiefly by the Hertford County Hospital, Hertford, but patients may be treated at the Herts and Essex Hospital, Bishop's Stortford and the Queen Elizabeth 11 Hospital, Welwyn Garden City.

Chronic sick can receive treatment at Western House Hospital, Collett Road, Ware. This has now become an all female hospital with 91 beds of which 47 are for psychogeriatric patients.

There are 190 beds in the Part 111 accommodation (93 male and 97 female).

Patients suffering from infectious diseases can be treated at St. Anne's Hospital, Winchmore Hill, London, N.21 (formerly South Lodge Hospital, World's End Lane, London, N. 21.) Tel: 01-360-8151.

GENERAL PRACTITIONER MEDICAL SERVICES

Ware District is served by six General Practitioners, five of whom work in partnerships. To two practices are attached Health Visitors, a scheme which has been in operation since 1967. These attachments are proving very successful.

DENTAL SERVICES

There are two Dental Surgeons in Ware.

OTHER SERVICES

Blood Transfusion Donor Sessions are held at The Priory.

There is a very active Old People's Welfare Service in Ware.

The W.R.V.S. has an office at 48B High Street, Ware.

SECTION C

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area
Report of the Chief Public Health Inspector

The Priory,
Ware,
Herts.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Ware Urban District Council

Mr. Chairman, Madam & Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting to you my third annual report.

The year has not been an easy one. Further changes in staff occurred during the year. Mr. A. Hutchison left the Department in September to take up an appointment as Public Health Inspector/Building Surveyor to the Kington U.D.C. in Herefordshire. Mr. R.C. Morton, a Senior Inspector from the London Borough of Haringey was appointed to succeed him in November.

Mrs. I. T. J. Smith, Clerk/Typist left us in July when her husband took up a new appointment in Northampton, and was replaced by Mrs. M. Watkins.

A considerable amount of time was taken up by the re-organisation of Local Government. Being appointed convenor and chairman of the working party on Environmental Health necessitated my attendance at all meetings both at joint Committee and Officer level. I only hope that the ultimate result will prove worthy of all the time that was given to it, as the Government have made it all too clear that Environmental Health is one of the most important functions with which Local Government will be faced in the future.

I would like to take the opportunity to express my sincere appreciation to all members of the department for their excellent support throughout the year, and also to thank the officers of all other Departments for their co-operation in matters of common interest. In conclusion I wish to record my appreciation of the very great interest which the Chairman and Members of Council have shown in all aspects of the work carried out by this Department.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Madam & Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

W. G. TODD
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

STASTICAL RECORDS.

1972.

Summary of Visits

Public Health Act, 1936		Total
Sec. 24	Cleansing and maintenance of sewers	43
" 39	Drainage of existing buildings	47
" 48	Examination & testing of drains (as amended by Sec.16 P.H.A., 1961)	10
" 83/4	Cleansing filthy or verminous premises and articles	
	Flies	16
	Crickets	1
	Others	3
" 85	Cleansing filthy or verminous persons	1
" 87	Public Sanitary conveniences	11
" 89	Sanitary conveniences at inns, refreshment houses etc.,	19
" 92	Statutory nuisances	
	(a) Premises in such a state etc.,	12
	(b) Any accumulation or deposit	11
	(c) Any dust or effluvia caused by trade, business, manufacture or process, being prejudical to health or a nuisance	12
" 144	Infectious disease enquiries	45
" 223	Swimming baths	1
Clean Air Act, 1956		
Sec. 1	Smoke observations	
	(a) Satisfactory readings	10
	(b) Contraventions recorded	1
" 3	Installation of furnaces	
	(a) notifications received	1
" 16	Nuisances from smoke, bonfires, etc.,	11
" 30	Occupiers notified of offences	6
	Visits in connection with smoke from furnace	6
Clean Air Act, 1968		
Sec. 1	Emission of dark smoke from industrial or trade premises	5
" 6	Chimney Heights	
	(a) Visits to premises	4
Water Act, 1945		
Sec.28	Duty of local authority with respect to water supplies (sampling)	10
National Assistance Act, 1948		
Sec.47	Old Peoples Welfare	2
National Health Service Act, 1946		
	Long stay immigrants	6
	carried forward	294

		Total
	Brought forward	294
Noise Abatement Act, 1960		
Sec. 1	Noise or vibration nuisance	
	(a) at industrial premises	18
	(b) at private dwellings	6
	Sound level readings taken	12
Building Plans		
	Number of plans examined	26
	Number of plans approved	20
Pet Animals Act, 1951		
	Number of premises inspected	2
	Number of licences granted	1
Food & Drugs Act, 1955		
Sec. 2	General protection for purchasers of food and drugs (i.e. not of the nature, substance or quality demanded)	8
" 9	Examination and surrender of unfit food (excluding slaughterhouse)	61
" 9	Examination of food exposed for sale	12
" 13	Regulations made thereunder:	
	(a) The Meat Inspection Regulations, 1963	41
	(b) The Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1970	
	(i) Food, food premises and personnel thereat	146
	(ii) Meat transport	4
	(c) The Food Hygiene (Markets, Stalls & Delivery Vehicles) Regulations, 1966	66
	(d) The Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations, 1959-63	
	(a) Ice Cream Samples taken	4
" 16	Registration of premises for:	
	(a) Fried Fish	1
" 26/27	Enquiries and faecal specimens	3
" 29	Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations 1959	
	Cleansing of bottles	1
" 63	Applications for renewal of slaughterhouse licence subject to compliance with the construction regulations of the Slaughterhouse (Hygiene) Regulations, 1958 and the Slaughter of Animals (Prevention of Cruelty) Regulations, 1958 as required by Section 1 of the Slaughterhouses Act, 1958	1
" 63	The Slaughterhouse (Hygiene) Regulations 1958-1966	17
	The Slaughter of Animals (Prevention of Cruelty) Reg. 1958	4
	The Meat (Sterilisation) Regulations 1969	3
	Imported Food Regulations - Containers examined	38
Factories Act 1961		
Sec. 7	Sanitary Conveniences	
	(a) Factories with mechanical power	25
	(b) Factories without mechanical power	1
" 133	Outworkers	6
" 1,2,3, 4 & 6	Factories without mechanical power	2
	Carried forward	823

		B.Fwd.	Total 823
Offices, Shops and Railways Premises Act 1968			
	Full detailed inspections		
	(a) Offices		11
	(b) Retail Shops		8
	(c) Wholesale Shops, Warehouses		1
	(d) Catering Establishments, canteens		3
	General Inspections		
	(a) Offices		10
	(b) Retail Shops		38
	(c) Wholesale Shops, Warehouses		2
	(d) Catering Establishments, canteens		13
Sec. 4	Cleanliness of Premises		4
" 6	Temperature		8
" 7	Ventilation		3
" 9	Sanitary Conveniences		2
" 16	Floors, passages and stairs		2
" 17	Fencing of Machinery		1
" 24	First Aid Boxes		8
" 50	Abstract of the Act		9
	Registration		2
	Lifts and Hoists Regulations		4
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949			
Sec. 2	Duty of Local Authority - sub-section (a)		
	Inspection of district		34
	Insects		4
	Survey and Treatment (Specific Premises)		13
Housing Act, 1957			
Sec. 9	Repair of unfit houses (see sec.92(a) P.H.A.1936)		43
" 17	Unfit houses to be demolished or closed		1
" 55	Houses to be demolished for redevelopment		6
" 86	Particulars of overcrowding		1
" 159	Notice for purpose of survey		
	(a) Informal		1
Housing Act, 1969			
Sec.28	Inspection of Houses for improvement		
	Preliminary surveys		22
" 44	Inspection prior to issue of qualification certificate		14
" 3	Inspections re improvement grants		21
" 9	Inspections re Standard Grants		42
	Final inspection before payment of standard grants		14
	Final inspection before payment of improvement grants		6
Miscellaneous			
	Game Dealers Licenses		3
	Employment Agencies		2
	Poisonous Beads (Ladybird)		3
	Deposit of Poisonous Waste Act, 1972		9
			1191

COMPLAINTS RECEIVED

General - 186

Rats & Mice - 190

WATER SUPPLY

The larger part of the district is supplied by the Lee Valley Water Company who reported that no new capital works were completed or under construction during the year 1971/72. The Company submitted reports on 157 bacteriological and 4 chemical samples, all of which were found to conform to the standards of purity considered suitable for a public supply.

The water consumption for the year ended March, 1972 was 1070.7 megalitres compared with 1237.5 megalitres in the previous year. There are 4809 houses with a population of 14,711 persons in the urban area receiving internal water supplies from the Company's mains. All supplies are chlorinated and the fluoride content is less than 0.2 milligrammes per litre.

The Metropolitan Water Board continued to supply 23 domestic premises with an estimated population of 72 people, and two schools in the Hoe Lane Area. This supply was derived from well water from the Rye Common pumping station, and the 255 bacteriological and 4 chemical samples taken all proved to be satisfactory. The natural fluoride content was 0.22 milligrammes per litre and no artificial fluoride was added.

At the beginning of the year, five cottages in isolated parts of the district were still supplied with domestic water from wells. One well, which supplied three cottages, was closed and the cottages connected to the public supply. Regular six monthly samples were submitted for bacteriological examination from both remaining wells and were found to be satisfactory.

A sample was taken from a domestic dwelling and submitted for analysis after the tenant complained that the water had an unusual odour. The supply was proved to be satisfactory.

The water supply throughout the district has been satisfactory in quantity and quality during the year. There are no dwelling houses in the area supplied from public water mains by means of standpipes.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

No significant works were carried out to the sewers during the year.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES

No common lodging houses are registered within the district.

HOUSES IN MULTIPLE OCCUPATION.

There are no houses in multiple occupation within the district.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS, 1936 and 1961

Sewers, Drains and Sanitary Conveniences

Thirty two complaints were received of choked defective drainage. In most cases the blockages were dealt with by Council Staff on a rechargeable basis. All works were carried out informally.

The combined drain serving 35-47 High Oak Road was subjected to test and found to be defective at some point where the drain passed along the passage between nos. 39-41 so allowing sewage to gain access to the cellars of both houses. Being satisfied that immediate action was necessary, I served notice on the Local Authority, pursuant to Section 24 of the Public Health Act, 1936, as amended, and arranged to excavate the drain immediately, initially for the length of the passage only, or until such a position as the defect became noticeable.

Excavation revealed a number of broken pipes, evidence of subsidence and the pipes had been laid open-jointed. It was necessary to relay the whole length from the head of the passage (where the depth was 4 feet) and make a new connection to the sewer in High Oak Road (at a depth in excess of 20 feet).

A new inspection chamber was also installed and the water service pipe replaced. The cost was apportioned between the owners of the seven dwellings involved.

Filthy or Verminous Premises and Articles.

(a) FLIES On two occasions during the year, numerous complaints were received from the residents in Richmond Close and Westmill Road of heave fly infestations. Investigations revealed that breeding was taking place in the refuse being tipped in Gentlemen's Field. The Ware Rural District Council, in whose area the tipping was taking place, prosecuted H. Brazier Ltd., (The holders of the tipping consent and W.W. Drinkwater (the tip operators) in connection with the nuisance taking place during the period 2nd - 4th June, 1972.

W.W. Drinkwater Ltd., were found guilty on the following counts:-

i) Failing to cover the deposited refuse with 6" on inert material within 24 hours; and
ii) Not taking all reasonable precautions to prevent the breeding of flies.

They were fined £200 : 00 on each count and £100 : 00 costs.
H. Brazier Ltd., were found guilty on the same two charges, and also for not displaying a copy of the tipping consent issued under the Hertfordshire County Council Act.
They were fined £100 : 00 on each of the three counts and £50 : 00 costs.

(b) BED-BUGS For the first time in recent years, no reports were received of infestations of bed-bugs.

(c) WASPS The number of wasp nests treated during the year was much lower than average.

(d) CLOVER MITE Infestations of clover mite were reported in three houses throughout the district. In the past such complaints have been rare and never more than one in any year. Treatment was carried out in the three houses.

NUISANCES

The nuisance caused by spillage from vehicles transporting refuse from London to the Gentlemen's Field tip which had been such a serious cause for complaint during 1970 and 1971, did not give rise for complaint during 1972. Only purpose built vehicles were used to transport refuse and the number of vehicles carrying refuse from London fell dramitacally during the year.

An incident which led to innumerable complaints being received occured when a local farmer sprayed pig manure slurry on his land abutting on the Urban District boundary. Owing to unforseen circumstances, this manure was not ploughed into the land until three days later, and the appalling stench which enveloped approximately one third of the district was almost certainly the worst nuisance experienced for many years. With the co-operation of the Public Health Inspectors of the Ware Rural District Council the nuisance was abated and I am pleased to report that there has been no further recurrence.

The odour emitted by an industrial concern when carrying out a particular stove-enamelling process was solved by adding a suitable deodorant to the paint.

NOISE ABATEMENT ACT 1960

A number of complaints were received from residents about the noise emanating from a nearby industrial premise. A series of noise level readings were taken at different hours of the day and night, with the wind blowing in various directions, and most important, during the conditions which prevail when there is a "temperature inversion" in the Lea Valley., It was proved that two pieces of machinery were emitting noise in excess of the criterion values, and the Company immediately carried out my recommendations which resulted in the noise levels being substantially decreased.

A second industrial premise used a warning siren which emitted a very high note and caused considerable annoyance to local residents whenever it sounded, and especially during the night. After discussions, the Company have installed a new warning system which emits a much lower note. This serves its purpose well and is hardly audible outside the factory compound.

Discotheques have been held regularly at the Drill Hall in Amwell End and very few complaints have been received, which goed to prove that should the promotor follow the advice given te him by his Department no nuisance will arise.

CLEAN AIR ACTS 1956 and 1958

There was a marked decrease in the number of complaints received of smoke nuisances from bonfires. The greatest number of such complaints came from sites where demolition contractors were burning waste timber.

Last year, I referred to the Cochran Boiler which had been installed and in which sawdust and other wood waste was used as a fuel. Further modifications have been made to the plant but the smoke nuisance has not been entirely eliminated.

It is extremely difficult to use wood fuel in a vertical boiler without creating a smoke nuisance, and I have little doubt that this boiler will eventually have to be replaced with a more suitable type, or alternatively if the boiler is to remain, then a different fuel must be used.

HOUSING

1) GRANTS from a survey carried out during the year, it was discovered that approximately 220 houses within the urban district are without one or more of the standard amenities. Visits were made to a large number of these houses, especially the ones that are owner-occupied, and grant procedure carefully explained, but the number of applications received still remains pathetically low.

   a) Standard Grants - 15 applications were received and approved

   b) Discretionary Grants - 10 applications were received of which 9 were approved. In the other case, the property was sold before the grant had been determined and the new owner decided not to proceed with the application.

ii) QUALIFICATION CERTIFICATES

Four applications were received under Section 44 (1) Housing Act 1969, for qualification certificates. Allowing for three applications which were still under consideration at the end of 1971, five applications were approved and two refused.

Six applications were received for provisional qualification certificates. All six applications were approved.

iii) DEMOLITION

The following works were completed during the year:-

2,3,4 & 5 Church Street -	These premises had been declared a Clearance area and the Minister confirmed the order on 8.11.60. The buildings were demolished in February, 1972 and the site left clear.
Widbury Farm Cottage -	Agreement was reached privately with the owner for the demolition of this building and it was completed in November, 1972.
17 - 18 Church Street -	This building was in an area represented by the Medical Officer of Health, but not declared on the 27th July, 1959. The building was demolished in October, 1972 to make way for proposed new office development.

FOOD & DRUGS ACT 1955

SECTION 2 - General protection for Purchasers of Food and Drugs

The following complaints were investigated:-

Mould on Cheese (2) *
Mould on Cooked Meats (2) *
Mould in Meat Pie (1) *
Mould in Confectionary (2) *
Unsound fish (1)
Foreign bodies in a tin of fruit - this was sent to the Public Analyst who confirmed that the foreign bodies were yeast balls.
Foreign bodies in Bread (3) - All cases were referred to the County Weights and measures Dept., who secured one conviction.

All cases were investigated and warning letters were sent to the retailers of the goods marked *. No legal action was taken by this Council.

On several occasions during the year, the attention of retailers was drawn to pre-packed foods being exposed for sale after the recommended dates by which their products were to be eaten had expired. In two cases, warning letters were sent as the shops concerned did nothing to ensure rotation of stock.

Section 91 - Powers of Sampling

Four samples of ice-cream were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory, Cambridge, and all conformed to the provisional Grade 1 standard.

The Slaughter of Animals (Prevention of Cruelty) Regulations 1958

The Slaughterhouse (Hygiene) Regulations 1958 - 1966

I reported in 1971 that the Ware Meat Supplies Ltd., had appealed against the decision of the Dunmow Rural District Council not to give planning consent to the construction of a new slaughterhouse on a site in Essex (just outside the boundary of the Bishop's Stortford Urban District) The appeal was heard at Dunmow on the 18th May, 1972 and the decision of the Dunmow R.D.C. was upheld.

Regular monthly inspections of the existing slaughterhouse at Amwell End were made by a Veterinary Officer from the Agricultural Development and Advisory Service, Hertford, and once again no adverse report was received. The Company has again continued to make improvements wherever possible - the entire yard was re-surfaced, and the premises redecorated throughout - but the present premises cannot be brought to a really satisfactory standard. The search for a better site on which to construct a new abbatour and cold storage facilities

continues.

The Meat Inspection Regulations 1963 - 1966

Once again, the number of pigs slaughtered continue to rise, and the number of cattle killed showed a 50% increase on the figures for 1971. The number of sheep and lambs slaughtered however fell by one third.

The weight of pork condemned was almost double that of the previous year and can only be attributed to the substantial increase in the number of sows and boars killed for manufacturing purposes.

The Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1970

The Food Hygiene (Markets, Stalls and Delivery Vehicles) Regulations 1966

Regular inspections were made of all food shops, food stalls in the market, and delivery vehicles and good standards were maintained throughout the year. Food stalls at all visiting fairs were kept under close observation. No prosecutions were taken during the year.

Imported Food Regulations

With the ever-increasing volume of imported foodstuffs arriving in this country by the "Containerisation" method it is becoming more and more popular for containers not to be opened until they arrive at their destination inland. This results in the functions normally carried out by the Port Health Authority being transferred to the local authority in whose district is the depot where the containers are unpacked. Such a depot is the warehouse of C. Albany & Son Ltd., Star Street, Ware. Not only are containers handled there, but also large quantities of foodstuffs which arrive on pallets after "stripping" of the containers has taken place at the docks. This accounts for the very high increase in the numbers of tinned fruit and vegetables whichwere condemned in 1972 compared with previous years.

POULTRY INSPECTION

There are no poultry processing premises within the District.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT 1949

There was a very substantial increase in the number of non-agrecultural properties found to be infested with mice following notification as compared with 1971. There was also a marked increase in the number of infestations of mice in properties inspected for reasons other than notifications. The figures for rats however remained much the same as the previous year.

It has been the practice for many years to bait the sewer manholes during the month of November, but as the evidence continued to point to the sewers being almost rat-free, it was decided to defer the baiting until March, 1973.

New concracts for Council to undertake rodent control were signed with two large industrial concerns and the new Hotel in Ware.

CARAVAN SITES AND CONTROL OF DEVELOPMENT ACT 1960

There are no registered sites within the district. It is pleasing to report that for the first time in many years no trouble was experienced with gypsies on other caravan dwellers being illegally parked on land within the district.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

Fifteen premises were registered for the first time during the year, made up as follows:- 9 Offices, 4 Retail Shops, 1 Warehouse and 1 Catering Establishment open to the public. The total number of registered premises was two more than the previous year.

Sixty three premises received a general inspection during the year and no major contravention of the Act was found. No legal proceedings were taken.

Three accidents to employees were notified during the year but they were all of a minor nature.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAYS PREMISES ACT, 1963

Annual Report for the Period 1st January to 31st December, 1972

The Act requires that the Local Authority shall submit an Annual Report to the Ministry of Labour every year. The report for the year 1972 is given below:-

Class of Premises	Registrations and General Inspections		
	Number of premises registered during year	Total number of registered premises at end of year	Number of registered premises receiving general inspection during the year
Offices	9	47	10
Retail Shops	4	91	38
Wholesale Shops	1	8	2
Catering Establishments open to public, canteens	1	14	13
Fuel Storage Depots	-	-	-
Totals	15	160	63

Total numbers of visits of all kinds by Inspectors to registered premises - 86

Analysys of persons employed in registered premises by workplace:-

Class of Workplace	Number of persons employed
Offices	338
Retail Shops	440
Wholesale Departments, Warehouses	159
Catering Establishments open to public	73
Canteens	—
Fuel Storage Depots	—

Total: Males - 473 Total: Female - 537 Total 1010

ANALYSIS OF UNFIT HOUSES

Clearance areas

Area No.	Address	Date Declared	Occupation
30	2 Church Street	25.11.1957	Demolished February,1972.
	3 Church Street	"	Demolished February,1972.
	4 Church Street	"	Demolished February,1972.
	5 Church Street	"	Demolished February,1972

No. of Houses (4)

Closing Orders Made

Address	DATE	OCCUPATION
32 Crib Street	7.9.1955	Vacant
15 West Street	"	Storage only
16 West Street	"	Workshop
110 High Street (first floor flat)	11.1.1971	Storage only

No. of Houses (4)

Undertaking not to Relet Accepted

20a Baldock Street	28.1.1963	Occupied
41 Baldock Street	12.7.1971	Approved use as office April, 1972
6 Church Street	6.10.1958	School Store
22 Church Street	25.3.1957	Vacant
50a Church Street	24.2.1958	2nd Floor Flat-Vacant
16/18 Crib Street	26.7.1933	Vacant
22 Crib Street	26.9.1955 (H.C.C. Purchased for relief road)	Vacant
24 Crib Street	11.2.1970 (H.C.C. purchased for relief road)	Vacant
34/36 Crib Street(one house)	31.3.1955	Vacant
8 East Street	28.1.1963	Photograph Sales
8a East Street	21.4.1969	Use for Storage
20 High Street	2.19.1967	Shop only on ground floor occupied
106/8 High Street (one house)	18.11.1953	Wireless repairs
46 Star Street	7.10.1963	Vacant
48 Star Street	24.7.1961	Vacant
1a West Street	24.3.1958	Shop on ground floor & Offices on 1st floor occupied
2 West Street	30.12.1957	Office use ground floor only occupied.
6 West Street (2 attics only)	10.8.1967	Vacant
17 West Street	19.8.1938	Storage (workshop)
109 Watton Road	10.1.1972	Vacant
Widbury Farm Cottage	Private agreement	
Widbury Hill	not to re-lot	Demolished November,1972

No. of houses (21)

Areas represented by M.O.H. but not declared - 27.7.1959

Address	Occupation
17-18 Church Street(one house	Demolished October,1972
23 Church Street	Vacant
25 Church Street	Occupied
33 Church Street	Occupied
34 Church Street - H.C.C. Purchase for relief road	Vacant
35 Church Street	Occupied
36 Church Street - H.C.C. Purchased for relief road	Vacant
20 Crib Street	Vacant
26 Crib Street - H.C.C. Purchased for relief road	Vacant
28 Crib Street	Vacant
30 Crib Street	Vacant
42 Crib Street	Occupied

No. of houses (12)

Other houses

28 Baldock Street - H.C.C. Purchased for relief road	Occupied
25 Crib Street February, 1968	Vacant
64 Crib Street - Council Purchased for redevelopment	Vacant
66 Crib Street Council purchased for redevelopment	Vacant
68 Crib Street Council negotiating purchase	Vacant
70 Crib Street Council purchased for redevelopment	Vacant

HOUSING PROGRESS

NEW HOUSING BY PRIVATE ENTERPRISE	During 1972
New dwellings erected	35
Conversions or adaptions in terms of family units	7
BY LOCAL AUTHORITY	
New dwellings erected	N il
Conversions or adaptions in terms of family units	4
BY OTHER AUTHORITIES	
(County Council, Police, Etc.,	Nil
TOTAL PROPERTIES CONTROLLED BY THE COUNCIL	
Council Houses	1479*
Temporary Prefabricated Bungalows	Nil
Sundries (including shops)	17

*this figure shows a reduction of 83 on the figure for 1971 due to the sale of Council houses.

FOOD PREMISES - FOOD HYGIENE (GENERAL) REGULATIONS, 1970

TYPE OF PREMISE	Number	No. fitted to comply with Reg. 18	No. to which Reg.21 applies	No. fitted to comply with Reg. 21.
Grocers and Provisions Merchants	19	19	19	19
Greengrocers	14	14	14	14
Dairies and Milk Depots	2	2	2	2
School and Industrial Canteens	17	17	17	17
Butchers	11	11	11	11
Fishmongers (Wet Fish)	3	3	3	3
Fried Fish Shops	3	3	3	3
Sweets and confectionary	13	13	--	--
Chemists	3	3	3	3
Bakehouses	1	1	1	1
Cake Shops	3	3	3	3
Cafes and Restaurants	5	5	5	5
Public Houses	25	25	25	25
Residential Hotels	2	2	2	2
Wine and Spirit Shops	2	2	--	--

CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED

	Cattle excl. Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Goats
Number Killed during 1972	917	49	49	1235	33,480	--
Number Killed during 1971	606	112	187	1736	32,982	--
Number inspected during 1972	917	49	49	1235	33,480	--
Number inspected during 1971	606	112	187	1736	32,982	--
All diseases except Tuberculosis:						
Whole carcases condemned	1	1	1	16	63	--
% of the number inspected totally condemned	0.10	2.04	2.04	1.29	0.18	--
Tubercolosis only:						
Whole carcases condemned	--	--	--	--	--	--
% of the number inspected totally condemned	--	--	--	--	--	--
Cysticercosis						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	18	2	--	--	--	--
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	--	--	--	--	--	--
Generalised and totally condemned	--	--	--	--	--	--

CONDEMNATION OF MEAT IN LBS.

		Beef	Mutton	Pork	Total
(a)	HOME KILLED CARCASE MEAT				
	Ware Slaughterhouse	4263	788	37,739	42,790
	Other Food Premises	551	155	69	775
(b)	IMPORTED CARCASE MEAT				
	Other Food Premises	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
(c)	EDIBLE OFFAL (Excluding Tripes)				
	Ware Slaughterhouse	6095	457	22,619	29,171
	Other Food Premises	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

OTHER FOODS

The following foods were found to be unfit for human consumption and were surrendered:-

	No. of Containers	Approx. Weight in lbs.
Frozen Cakes	10	12
Frozen Vegetables	476	324
Frozen Fish	1157	727
Frozen Pastry	63	34
Frozen Ice Cream and Mousse	133	79
Frozen Poultry	136	287
Tinned Meat	4	21
Tinned Vegetables	11,831	10,530
Tinned Fruit	16,731	22,066
Tinned Milk	23	12
Tinned Jam	300	628
Dried Fruit	2	53
Cooked Ham	-	17

Condemnation Certificates issued :- 135

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

REPORT FOR THE 12 MONTHS TO 31st DECEMBER, 1972

	Type of Property	
	Non-Agricultural	Agricultural
1. Number of properties in the district	6139	7
2.(a) Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification	188	2
(b) Number infested by (i) Rats	84	2
(ii) Mice	104	Nil
3.(a) Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification	1248	352
(b) Number infested by (i) Rats	73	5
(ii) Mice	95	Nil

4. Number of notices served under Section 4 of the Act	.....	Nil
5. Number of cases in which default action taken	.....	Nil
6. Legal proceedings	.....	Nil
7. Number of "Block" control Schemes carried out	.....	Nil

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

IN RESPECT OF THE YEAR 1972 FOR THE URBAN

DISTRICT OF WARE IN THE COUNTY OF HERTFORDSHIRE

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act, 1961.

PART 1 of the ACT

1. INSPECTIONS for the purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors.)

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspections (3)	Written Notices (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Section 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	2	2	Nil	Nil
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	79	25	3	Nil
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total	81	27	3	Nil

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found:-

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instigated (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector (4)	Referred by H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temp.(S.3.)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate vent. (S.4.)	-	-	-	-	-

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				No. of cases in which prosecution were instigated
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred H.M. Inspector (4)	Referred H.M. Inspector (5)	(6)
Ineffective drainage of floors (s.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (s.7)					
a) insufficient	1	1	-	-	-
b) unsuitable or defective	4	4	-	1	-
c) not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
Total	5	5	-	1	-

Part V111 OF THE ACT

Outwork

(Sections 133 and 134)

Nature of work (1)	SECTION 133			SECTION 134		
	No. of outworkers in August list required by Section 133(1) (c) (2)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council (3)	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists (4)	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises (5)	Notices Served (6)	Prosecutions (7)
Wearing apparel, making etc.,	15	-	-	-	-	-
Artificial flowers	3	-	-	-	-	-
Total	18	-	-	-	-	-

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